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# MAPLE RIDGE FARM

CONSTABLE, N.Y.

Market Gardening and Choice Tomato Seed Growing.



Prize Bushel of Langdon's Northern Adirondack Earliana Tomato.

## THIS IS THE EARLIEST, SMOOTHEST, HARDEST AND BEST EARLY TOMATO EVER GROWN.

We began seven years ago by going over the field ahead of the pickers, selecting a fruit here and there, judging by earliness, large size, thick, blocky shape, prolificness, smoothness and color.

This bushel was then cut and all fruit not showing very solid meat and small seed cavities was rejected—about half the bushel.

We have done this for seven years and can see a remarkable difference in our strain.

Another reason for this improvement, we are located in the far north near the Canadian line, and each year our short, cool season tends to breed in earliness and vigor, for, as the vines are healthy up here, we do not need to spray for blight.

The germination of this seed is as perfect as is possible for it to be. It is home-grown, cleaned and graded by a new mill which takes out the smallest seeds, leaving them extra large and plump for starting strong, vigorous plants.

From two acres of our Northern Adirondack Earliana we sold 400 fifty-pound baskets for \$900.00 in 1909.

#### HERE IS OUR PROOF.

J. M. Myer, Gridley, Calif., writes Nov. 28, 1910: "I tried your strain of Earliana last year, and alongside of two other crack strains of Earliana yours were ripe a full week first and 25 per cent. better in every way—the finest in early tomatoes I ever saw, and I have been at it for thirty years."

One of our customers in Florida sowed ten pounds last year in a comparative trial with a \$4.50 fancy strain he had been using, and we have just filled his order for ten pounds more at \$6.00. Such a trial speaks for itself.

The Pennsylvania State College reports in part Oct. 22, 1910: "This year 'the number of marketable ripe fruits per plant was 43.1, weighing 10.33 pounds per plant. The unmarketable fruits averaged 13.25 per plant, weighing .81 pounds. The per cent. of marketable fruit per plant for this season was 75.50 per plant by count and 92.8 by weight.

Think of it, Earliana at the rate of more than 700 50-pounds baskets per acre of marketable fruit!

"Grower," of the Market Growers Journal says,—"This Langdon Strain I have found all they claim for it." Also on Nov. 10, 1910, he writes:—"I think your strain the finest early variety ever produced for out-of-door use, and for forcing is also very good."

"Grower," runs 100,000 square feet of glass and knows what a good tomato should be.

Wm. W. Kling, Sharon Springs, N. Y., writes:—"I read what 'Grower' in the Market Growers Journal says about your strain of Earliana, also your experience. In one very important particular I agree with you both, and that is, your strain comes on much faster. Just before I commenced this letter I made a careful inspection of yours and the others, side by side, and I am sure that more than half the fruit has been picked off, and a very large share of the remainder is ripe now, when my Jersey seed has not ripened more than one-third of its fruit, and the vines do not show half the ripe fruit that yours do now. The heavier picking earlier in the season is of course what determines the profitableness of the crop, and consequently no grower could afford to use any other seed at any price if yours could be obtained."

Mr. Kling had been sending to New Jersey for the earliest seed he could find, and his recommend was entirely unsolicited. He also says later:

"If your strain of Earliana behaves everywhere as it did with me, too much can hardly be said in its favor as a money-making proposition."

Prof. W. F. Massey is Associate Editor of the Market Growers Journal and for his department wrote the following paragraphs:—

July 23, 1910, "The strain of Earliana Tomatoes sent me by the Langdons, of Constable, N. Y., is certainly the best of that variety I have ever seen. I have yet to see a gnarly fruit among them, but the old strain of Earliana is the same old crooked thing."

Aug. 20, 1910, "The heaviest cropper under glass is the Earliana, but when I grew it under glass it was too rough. But now with the very smooth strain I have from the Langdons, I believe that they will pay well under glass for mid-winter work on account of its productiveness and early maturity."

Oct. 1, 1910, "The best early tomato I have tested is Langdon's strain of Earliana. They were uniformly smooth with me, early and productive, and I shall use them altogether for early fruit."

Oct. 23, 1910, "I had Early June, June Pink, Earliana in three stocks and Bonney Best among those claimed to be the earliest. The best early tomato in my trials this year was Langdon's Earliana."

Jan. 7, 1910, "In my trials last summer the Earliana of the Langdon strain was well ahead of any other early tomato tried, both in earliness, size and quality, and was as smooth as any other sort. It seems to me that its great value, aside from good size and shape, is its habit of throwing a large, early crop all at once. Any market gardener will see the advantage of getting the most of the crop while the price is good, and this habit seems more developed in this strain than in any I have tried."

Prof. Massey also wrote this to us, "I have tried all the various strains of Earliana on the market, and yours is the only one I have found that meets my idea of what a good early tomato should be. I had them here just like the picture and believe they are the BEST EARLY TOMATO YET DEVELOPED." Need we say more?

All the foregoing is taken from our circular for 1910, and we add only the following from among many kind words which have been sent to us:



Conneaut, O., Aug. 4, 1911 F. & H. P. Langdon, Constable, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—For some years the writer has been trying out the various strains of Earliana Tomatoes. This year it has been yours. My plants-were set May 14th. Since July 2nd we have had plenty of ripe fruit, and have been in on high prices for nearly a month. Thought you might be interested in a cut of one of the plants. This plant had 33 perfect tomatoes, which is not an exceptional yield among my plants, and was picked out for the general arrangement of fruit. But I do not look at the yield as a leading factor in the case. There were so many other good points in the way of uniform size of plant, perfect fruit, early maturity of fruit and good flavor. I feel frank in saying this is the most satisfactory Earliana Tomato I have ever raised. If you have any crown setting seed for next year's crop I shall be in the market.

Very truly yours,

R B. MacFarland,
Sec. and Treas. of The Pond Lumber Co.

Touisset, Mass., Aug. 16, 1911. F. & H. P. Langdon.

Gentlemen:—Save us one-half pound of your best crown set Earliana Tomato seed. Yours of last spring beat any I ever saw or raised. We are today getting one dollar per bushel, while many are selling for 70 cents. We picked 104 bushels yesterday, and expect to average this for several weeks.

Yours truly, H. W. Tinkham & Sons. H. W. T.

Notwithstanding the drouth this year our field of potted plants grew a good crop of fruit finer than ever before, which started at \$5.00 per 50 lb. basket, and we are still getting \$1.50 to \$2.00 at this date.

Price of Langdon's eight-year selection Northern Adirondack Tomato seed, postpaid:—

Grade No. 1.—½ oz. 40 cts.; 1 oz. 60 cts.; 2 oz. \$1.20; 4 oz. \$2.00; 8 oz. \$3.50; 1 lb. \$6.00.

Grade No. 2.—Seed from Crown and Selected Fruit.— $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. 75 cts.; 1 oz. \$1.25. Can be supplied only when in stock.

Grade No. 3.—Seed from our Line Breeding plots Nos. 1-2-3, Best Private Stock, just such as we sow.—¼ oz. \$2.00; ½ oz. \$3.00; 1 oz. \$5.00

This seed is from fruit carefully selected for size, shape and smoothness of fruit and appearance of plant, which is then cut and all fruit rejected that does not come up to the standard in solidity and small seed cavities. This is the first we have offered of this grade, and can be supplied only when in stock.

The cost of seed for one or ten acres is so insignificant compared with the value of the crop that we unhesitatingly advise one of the two best grades. Gardeners everywhere are learning that "blood tells" in seeds, and that the best is the cheapest.

This year we have concluded to offer a five-year selection of JUNE PINK. Personally we prefer a red tomato, but where the market demands a pink one this will suit you. This choice strain was sent to us by a customer who wanted seed grown as far north as possible, and we have a quantity of our own growing which we offer at the prices of our Earliana Grades Nos. I and 2.

Order early. Last year the demand was such that we were compelled to return many orders for the two best grades. Write your name plainly.

Please do not send postage stamps—we cannot use so many.

### CANTALOUPES.

Having had inquiries for northern grown cantaloupe seed we wish to call attention to the new EDEN GEM. This is the 11th year we have grown melons, and, after trying cantaloupes of various colors, kinds and strains for a critical market, we have this year found one that is as nearly perfect as is possible for a melon to be.

The EDEN GEM is from a strain of seed which grow melons that are the heaviest netted, the longest keepers and the thickest meated with the smallest seed cavity of any we have ever seen. They are the best shippers, being largely self-picking while still very hard.

As grown under our Skinner Irrigation the vines are healthy, vigorous and very prolific, being practically wilt and blight proof; and for sweetness and flavor we believe the fruit cannot be excelled by any grown in this country—the product of Colorado and the Imperial Valley not excepted.

The seed we offer is from the lot harvested for our own planting, all saved from the best, large, selected fruit, which is cut and selected for perfection inside and out. You can get cheaper seed, but cannot find better at any price, for this strain took first prize over six competitors at the great Arkansas Valley Fair held at Rocky Ford last year.

Price— $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. 40 cts.; 1 oz. 75 cts. Not having a large quantity we cannot offer this seed by the pound.

Thanking our customers for their patronage and many expressions of kind regard, we remain

Yours very truly,

F. & H. P. LANGDON.

Constable, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1911.